for publication. The weather Forecasting Centre at Madras was regularly kept informed by telegram, in the mornings and evenings, of the local weather conditions, both surface and upper air, for publication in the weather reports and for use in weather forecasts for purposes of agriculture and aviation. The same thing was done at Mysore, Hassan and Chitaldrug with regard to the several observations recorded in those stations. Surface readings were regularly telephoned twice daily to the Forecasting Office at the Hindusthan Air Port, Bangalore.

875. Pilot Balloon observations for determining the velocity and the direction of wind in the Upper Regions of the atmosphere were regularly carried out in the Bangalore observatory, and the results obtained were despatched telegraphically twice during the day to the Madras Weather Forecasting Centre for their immediate use. Similar messages were sent at nights after the 0·200 hours ascents. Upper air data were supplied thrice daily to the Forecasting office at the Hindustan Air Port, Bangalore. Twenty sets of Pilot Balloon Observations were taken for use of the International Committee for Upper Air Research.

876. The total number of rain-gauge stations was 260. The rain recording work in all the rain-gauge stations continued to be satisfactory.

877. The total expenditure of the Department during the year was Rs. 18,148 (Rs. 24,838).

(vi) Horticulture and Public Gardens.

878. The Department of Horticulture continued its activities connected with the introduction, acclimatisation and propagation of plants of economic and ornamental value. A huge collection of most interesting ornamental and economically important plants was received from various nurseries and botanical institutions from all over the world. Various plants of horticultural and botanical interest were introduced. New varieties of tree seeds were also introduced. Huge quantities of economic and ornamental seedlings were propagated for Tree Planting Drive. Many types of ornamental and fruit plants were also propagated for sale purposes in the nursery. The Palace Parks and Gardens and Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens at Mysore with a budget provision of nearly Rs. 2

Rain-gauge Stations.

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lakhs were transferred to the Horticultural Department. The spraying staff visited all the Government Gardens, Horticultural Farms and many of the private gardens and treated plants against several insect pests and fungus diseases.

879. To implement the drive to Grow More Food, vegetable culture in the Central Park and the State Officers' Mess was undertaken along with ornamental gardening and indigenous and exotic vegetables raised and supplied to the extent of 1,200 lbs. to Unit Messes. Vegetable seeds collected from indigenous vegetable crops were distributed to the unit vegetable gardens in the Mysore Infantry, Mysore Lancers and the Infantry Training Centre. Propagation of economic and ornamental plants required for the Military Garden was undertaken during the year.

Horticultural Society.

880. The Mysore Horticultural Society maintained its popularity with the help and co-operation of the Gardens Department and with the patronage given by the garden-loving public. It is becoming an important medium for spreading horticultural knowledge among the public. The membership of the society was 200. The Summer Horticultural Show was held on 6th and 7th August 1949 and the Winter Show on 4th and 5th February 1950. Necessary help and advice were given to several members. His Highness the Maharaja graciously presented a large silver cup at each Show to the winner in the different groups—foliage, perennial or annual flowers. The Vegetable Garden competitions were also held on 1st August 1949 and 1st February 1950, respectively.

881. The Lal-bagh and the Sri Chamarajendra Park (Cubbon Park), Bangalore continued to be popular as places of public resort and centres of horticultural work and education. The general public have availed themselves of the gardens for pleasure and recreation while the natural science students have availed themselves for biological studies. The Pot Herbs and Medicinal herb garden was also maintained in a satisfactory condition in the Lal-bagh. Various plants of horticultural and botanical interest were also introduced. All the Parks and Gardens at Mysore, Seringapatam and Krishnarajsagar were also maintained in good condition during the year.

882. H. E. the Governer-General of India, the Hon'ble Moulana Abul Kalam Azad, Minister for

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Education, Government of India, the Hon'ble Janab Sheik Mohamed Abdulla, Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir State and his party, the Hon'ble Jagjivanram, Labour Minister, Government of India visited the Lal-bagh and the Cubbon Park during the year.

883. The Horticultural Farms at Koramangala and Maddur were maintained in good condition. Vegetable and fruit cultivation was continued in these Farms. Nurseries were also formed to raise economic, ornamental and fruit plants for distribution among the public. A large number of persons visited the farms and obtained information on the growing of vegetables, fruits and fodders. Several kinds of vegetable seeds were got from different places and tried successfully in these farms. In addition to the cultivation of indigenous and exotic vegetables, due importance was given to the raising of genuine seeds of indigenous vegetables for distribution among the interested growers. In the Koramangala Farm, the cultivation of fodder grasses was kept up and the supply of grass to the customers was continued throughout the year. Vegetables of the farms were also harvested and sold to the public.

Nandi Hill Station.

884. The Nandi Hill Station continued to be popular as a health resort and attracted visitors throughout the year which totalled to 3,250. Besides a large number of casual visitors and pilgrims to the temple visited the place. The Maha Sivaratri Jatra did not take place owing to the prevalence of cholera epidemic in the neighbouring villages. The vegetarian and non-vegetarian hotels were maintained throughout the year, A dispensary, Sub-Post Office and Police Out-post were opened from 15th March 1950. The daily van services continued to ply from Bangalore to Nandi Hill top. The Meteorological Observatory continued to function. A number of plants of horticultural and botanical value were planted during the year.

Sri Krishnarajendra Hill Station.

885 The Sri Krishnarajendra Hill Station was maintained in good condition. The vegetarian and non-vegetarian hotels and the Oilman Stores were well maintained. All the conveniences and comforts were provided to the visitors. The water to this Hill Station is from a natural spring stored in six big tanks of about 2,400 gallons capacity. Several distinguished persons visited the Hill Station during the year.